

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

**1. Name of Property**

historic name: **Henrico Theatre (043-0287)**  
other names/site number

**2. Location**

street & number **305 East Nine Mile Road**  
city or town **Highland Springs**  
state **Virginia** code **VA** county **Henrico** code **087** Zip **23075**

**3. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of certifying official  
**Virginia Department of Historic Resources**  
State or Federal agency and bureau

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register  
☐ See continuation sheet.  
☐ determined eligible for the  
National Register  
☐ See continuation sheet.  
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register  
☐ removed from the National Register  
☐ other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Keeper \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

U. S. Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Henrico Theatre  
Henrico County, Virginia

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**5. Classification**

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**Ownership of Property** (Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private  
☒ public-local  
☐ public-State  
☐ public-Federal

**Category of Property** (Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)  
☐ district  
☐ site  
☐ structure  
☐ object

**Number of Resources within Property**

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.): N/A

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**6. Function or Use**

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**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)Cat: Recreation and CultureSub: Movie Theater**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions)Cat: Vacant/not in use (rehabilitation is planned)

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**7. Description**

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**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions)Art Deco**Materials** (Enter categories from instructions)Foundation: Poured concreteRoof: Flat EPDM roofWalls: Facade is poured in place monolithic concrete. Remaining exterior walls are painted brick.

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)  

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U. S. Department of the Interior  
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Henrico Theatre  
Henrico County, Virginia

## 8. Statement of Significance

**Applicable National Register Criteria** (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations** (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or a grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance:** Architecture

**Period of Significance:** 1938-1955

**Significant Dates:** 1938 (construction)

**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked above): NA

**Cultural Affiliation:** NA

**Architect/Builder:** Edward F. Sinnott

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

### Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

### Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

### Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository: Library of Virginia

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: 1.6 acres

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone: 18      Easting: 294487      Northing: 4157751

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Bryan Clark Green and Susan Reed, Architectural Historians

Organization: Commonwealth Architects

date: 7 June 2005

street & number: 101 Shockoe Slip, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

telephone: 804.648.5040

city or town: Richmond

state: Va

zip code: 23219

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

**Continuation Sheets**

**Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

**Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

**Additional items** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

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**Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name: J. Wesley Malcomb, Director of Recreation and Parks, Henrico County

street & number: PO Box 27032

telephone: (804) 501-5104

city or town: Richmond

state: Va

zip code: 23273

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**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
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**Henrico Theatre  
Henrico County, Virginia**

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**7. Summary Description:**

**Summary**

The Henrico Theatre is a two-story Art Deco building of poured concrete and brick construction built in 1938. The primary elevation is comprised of three bays, the central of which is recessed, taller and bears the word "Henrico" across the top. Below that is a large clock, then original marquee, and the main entrance at the bottom. The two side bays of the elevation are characterized by rounded edges and vertical center panels that bisect the bays with large scale zigzagged fluting arising from display cases capped by shallowly projecting canopies that mimic the form of the marquee. A raised band just below the parapet, like an exaggerated stringcourse, carries the line across the façade and wraps around to become the top line of the rest of the building capping the brick side walls.

**Detailed Description**

The Henrico Theatre is a two-story Art Deco building of poured concrete and brick construction built in 1938. The original entrance and marquee span the center bay of the primary east façade. In the center of the façade is a stylized clock echoing the shape of the building. Above this, in large scaled letters, is the word "Henrico." The center bay is recessed and slightly taller than the side bays. The parapet is capped with two stepped and patterned concrete bands. The projecting marquee repeats this stepped and patterned detail along the front center panel. There are three pairs of double entrance doors below the marquee. Although most of the doors are presently boarded up, they are wooden doors with diamond paned glass center panels. On either side of the row of doors are two windows are comprised of five tall narrow faceted panes of glass following the convex curve of the wall. The north window serves as the ticket booth with a small projecting counter. The terrazzo pavement below the marquee repeats the word "Henrico" in large letters across the entrance. The two side bays of the elevation project forward from the taller center bay and are characterized by rounded edges and vertical center panels that bisect the bays with large scale zigzagged fluting arising from display cases. The display cases, comprised of hinged glass (now missing) panels, are capped by shallowly projecting canopies that mimic the form of the marquee. The parapets of the side bays are capped with bands of concrete painted turquoise, as is the concrete base. A raised band just below the parapet, like an exaggerated stringcourse, carries the line across the façade and wraps around to the side walls to become the top line of the rest of the building.

Both side elevations are identical, with the monolithic poured concrete first bay projecting from the plane of the recessed six bays of the main body of the theater. The first bay repeats the same detailing as the side bays on the front elevation with the addition of two small windows on either side of the zigzagged fluting. These single paned windows open into the men's and women's lounges. The remaining six bays are constructed of brick in six-course American Bond. Raised brick pilasters divide the bays. Below the raised top band of brick is a parallel row of raised brick. The fifth bays on each side wall contain a pair of double door for the emergency exits.

The rear elevation contains no additional detailing except one window in each side bay and a vent in the upper center bay. The entire building is painted a uniform off-white color. The flat roof is not visible from the street, but is likely an EPDM covering.

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The interior of the theater retains most of its original ornamental detailing on the ceiling and wall planes. Ornamental detailing is characterized by simple linear highlights with selective points of curvilinear and geometric embellishments. The rear wall of the front lobby is comprised of three display panels, now stripped to exposed brick. The lobby is also where the typical treatment of the intersection of the wall and the ceiling plane is seen: a stepped plaster "crown molding" repeated with slight variations throughout the building.

Originally double doors, now missing, to the left and right of the lobby led into the back foyer area of the main theater. Access into the ticket booth, storage closet and water fountain is at the foot of stairs leading up to the lounges. Ornamental railings remain in place at these staircases leading up to the second floor.

The lounges have a nautical feel created by curvilinear walls and chrome bands delineating four equal stripes horizontally around the room. The men's and women's lounges are on the north and south walls at the front (east) of the building. Between them are the projection booth overlooking the main theater space and the men's and women's restrooms toward the east street front wall.

Selected areas of ornament highlight the main theater space. A wide striped gilded band runs down the center of the ceiling toward the stage where it intersects with a large "H" and a band of stripes that continues down the sides of the proscenium. The rear side exit doors have gilded door surrounds with fluted sides and tall highly ornamental panels of geometric and foliate motifs above. The center of the room is marked by a bracketed diamond-shaped gilded panel and raised half-sphere embellishment. The theater seats have been removed, but some are stored in a back closet. Original light fixtures and illuminated signage are present throughout the theater. Carpet, acoustical paneling and baseboards have been removed entirely. Overall the theater is in good condition.

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Henrico Theatre  
Henrico County, Virginia

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Summary Statement of Significance

The Henrico Theatre, designed by Edward Francis Sinnott, is one of two surviving significant Art Deco resources in Henrico County. It is eligible for individual listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places as locally significant under Criterion C (Architecture) with a Period of Significance of 1938-1955. Located in Highland Springs, the Henrico Theatre was the most prominent and architecturally sophisticated theater in Henrico County when it opened on April 25, 1938. Despite its then-rural location, it was designed and built to be the most modern and technologically advanced theater in the Richmond area. From cutting edge materials like monolithic poured concrete, high-tech equipment like the Simplex E-7 projector and year-round air conditioning, to sophisticated streamlined design inside and out, no expense was spared. The theater was so well received that in the 1940 Architectural Record "Poll" it was nominated by a distinguished panel of Richmonders to be one of the most outstanding examples of recent architecture in the greater Richmond area.

### Edward Francis Sinnott

Edward Francis Sinnott, Sr. (1890-1975) designed the Henrico Theatre. While no documentation survives to chronicle Sinnott's architectural education, he certainly trained and worked in two productive Richmond architectural firms before becoming a registered architect in 1925.<sup>1</sup> Sinnott appears to have begun his architectural career with the prominent Richmond architect and master of the Colonial Revival form, W. Duncan Lee, but it is unclear exactly when this association was begun. The association ended, though, in 1924, the first year that Sinnott advertised himself as an architect.<sup>2</sup>

In 1924 Sinnott entered into a partnership with Luther P. Hartsook (active 1913-1940). As Hartsook and Sinnott, they practiced from 1924 until 1929, designing new residences in Richmond, churches (Mizpah Presbyterian Church, Richmond, 1925; Oakland Methodist Church, Petersburg, 1927; and Park View Baptist Church, Richmond, 1928), an apartment building (D.J. O'Connell Flats Building, Richmond, 1924), a bank (American Bank & Trust Company Branch Bank Building, Richmond, 1929), and renovating several historic houses (including Bewdley, King and Queen County, ca. 1925).<sup>3</sup>

In 1929, the Hartsook & Sinnott partnership was dissolved. Hartsook's documented architectural practice ended in 1932, though he is believed to have remained in practice until 1940. The date of his death is unknown. After the dissolution of Hartsook & Sinnott, Sinnott established a self-named independent practice, focusing on school and institutional projects, complemented by residential restorations. His first independent project was the prominent Southern Aid Society of Virginia (1930), located at Third and Clay streets in Richmond. Built at a cost of

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<sup>1</sup> John E. Wells and Robert E. Dalton, The Virginia Architects, 1835-1955: A Biographical Dictionary. (Richmond: New South Architectural Press, 1997): 412.

<sup>2</sup> John E. Wells and Robert E. Dalton, The Virginia Architects, 1835-1955: A Biographical Dictionary. (Richmond: New South Architectural Press, 1997): 412.

<sup>3</sup> John E. Wells and Robert E. Dalton, The Virginia Architects, 1835-1955: A Biographical Dictionary. (Richmond: New South Architectural Press, 1997): 182.

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**Henrico Theatre  
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\$150,000, the Southern Aid Society was a significant commission. It was also Sinnott's last documented commission until ca. 1940. Like many other architects, Sinnott was likely unable to secure building commissions, as the economy slowed down under the pressures of the Great Depression. What Sinnott did during that decade is not documented, but his documented architectural output remained erratic after he resumed practice in 1940. Four projects are believed to have been completed ca. 1940: the Franklin Federal Savings and Loan Company Building (arguably one of the most significant surviving Art Deco commercial buildings in Richmond today), 616 E. Franklin Street, Richmond; the Frank A. Bliley Funeral Home, Richmond; the Richmond Sand and Gravel Co. Building, Richmond; the restoration of the Crozet House, 100 East Main Street, Richmond; and the Henrico Theatre, Richmond.<sup>4</sup> Following the completion of these four projects, only two more projects designed by Sinnott are documented, 317-327 West Main Street, Richmond (1952), and 104 West Franklin Street, Richmond (1965). In 1956, Sinnott entered into a new architectural partnership, this time with his son, Edward Francis Sinnott, Jr.<sup>5</sup> Little is known about that partnership, the projects produced, or its duration. Sinnott was a member of the American Institute of Architects, at one point serving as its vice-president.<sup>6</sup>

**The Henrico Theatre**

Located in Highland Springs, the Henrico Theatre was the most prominent and architecturally sophisticated theater, and the best example of Art Deco design in Henrico County when it opened on Monday, April 25, 1938. The owners Charles A. Somma and B. N. Somma, were not new to theatre architecture. Charles A. Somma (with Walter Coulter) was the builder of the Byrd Theater, built in 1928 to the design of architect Fred Bishop. The Henrico Theatre was constructed with the most up-to-date features possible: air conditioning, high tech lighting and projection equipment, superior acoustical treatment, streamlined and cushioned seats, plush fabrics throughout, neon tube façade lighting at night, and plenty of adjacent parking. The owners hired high quality workmen and subcontractors to complete the work. The general contractor was Doyle & Russell, who went on to work on Richmond's City Hall. Several of the subcontracting companies are still in business today and were considered top-notch at the time: Decorative plasterwork and painting by E. Caligari & Son (Norfolk and Massachusetts offices), theater chairs and lounge furniture by Heywood-Wakefield (who had launched their "new modern" line a few years prior), stage drapery and equipment by Novelty Scenic Studio from New York City – even the exterior clock was a high tech creation from the International Business Machine Corporation (later IBM.)

No expense was spared in creating what was intended to be the most modern movie facility around in both function and design. The building was constructed of poured in place concrete, which created a monolithic structure that appears much larger than it actually is. In its grand opening advertisement in the Richmond Times-Dispatch, it was touted as "...a modern 'Big City' temple of entertainment set in beautiful rural surroundings..." It was so well received, that in the 1940 Architectural Record "Poll" it was nominated by a distinguished panel of citizens to be one of the most outstanding examples of recent architecture in Richmond.

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<sup>4</sup> John E. Wells and Robert E. Dalton, The Virginia Architects, 1835-1955: A Biographical Dictionary. (Richmond: New South Architectural Press, 1997): 412.

<sup>5</sup> "E. F. Sinnott, Architect, Dies." Richmond Times-Dispatch, 20 December 1974, B-4.

<sup>6</sup> "E. F. Sinnott, Architect, Dies." Richmond Times-Dispatch, 20 December 1974, B-4.



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**Henrico Theatre  
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In the 1920s and 1930s, the language of modern architecture spoke in many dialects: “stripped classicism,” Art Deco, the streamlined style, and the International Style were all recognized inflections of modernism. One of the most aggressively modern of these strains was the Art Deco. During the 1920s and 1930s, Art Deco was known by a variety of names: Modernistic, Moderne, the vertical style, and the skyscraper style.<sup>7</sup> Influenced by the 1925 world’s

fair in Paris from which the style derived its name, the *Exposition Internationale des Arts Décoratifs et Industriels Modernes*, the style quickly took root in America. Influenced by the machine, architects working in this mode were drawn to stepped back profiles, intertwining geometric and foliate decoration, and in general, approached architectural elements as though they were parts of a complicated machine.<sup>8</sup> Buildings designed in the Art Deco mode embraced modernity: as in the case of the Henrico Theatre, the design could be seen as a statement both embracing the newness and modernity of motion pictures, as well as making a clear statement about the possibilities for advancement of this once-rural, and then-emerging suburban portion of Henrico County. The modernity of the Henrico Theatre can be read as a clear statement of the emerging possibilities of the area. The choice of architectural style was an open embrace of the promise of modernity to transform once out-of-the-way places through the modern developments in communications (such as the motion picture) which were in turn made possible at heretofore unimaginably rapid rates of distribution through developments in automobile and airborne transportation. The motion picture industry, including the theatres in which films were shown, exemplified the modern transformation of information distribution, and embraced a wide range of developments in technology and transportation available to places formerly considered too isolated. Art Deco was just the style to convey this promise of modernity, and the Henrico Theatre is, for these reasons, an excellent example of it.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Richard Guy Wilson, “Building on the Foundations: The Historic Present In Virginia Architecture, 1870-1990,” in Charles E. Brownell, Calder Loth, William M.S. Rasmussen, and Richard Guy Wilson, The Making of Virginia Architecture (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia for the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 1992), 102.

<sup>8</sup> Wilson, Making of Virginia Architecture, 102.

<sup>9</sup> The other significant example of Art Deco architecture in Henrico County, the Mountain Road School (part of the Virginia Randolph – Mountain Road School Complex) does not survive with as high a level of architectural design as the Henrico Theatre.

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**9. Bibliography**

Charles E. Brownell, Calder Loth, William M.S. Rasmussen, and Richard Guy Wilson, The Making of Virginia Architecture. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia for the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 1992.

"E. F. Sinnott, Architect, Dies." Richmond Times-Dispatch, 20 December 1974, B-4.

*General Construction Costs*, Chas. A. Somma, Owner, 25 March, 1938.

"Grand Opening." Richmond Times-Dispatch, 24 April, 1938, pg. 6.

"Richmond Record Poll." Architectural Record, December 1940, pg. 16 & 18.

Wells, John E. and Robert E. Dalton, The Virginia Architects, 1835-1955: A Biographical Dictionary. Richmond: New South Architectural Press, 1997.

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## 10. Geographical Information

### Verbal Boundary Description

The eastern boundary (the main entrance to the building) is formed by the sidewalk directly in front of the building along Nine Mile Road. The western, or rear, boundary faces athletic fields. The northern and southern boundaries face adjacent commercial properties along Nine Mile Road. The property is defined by the County of Henrico as GPIN 8237233551.

### Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Henrico Theatre building are those historically associated with the building.



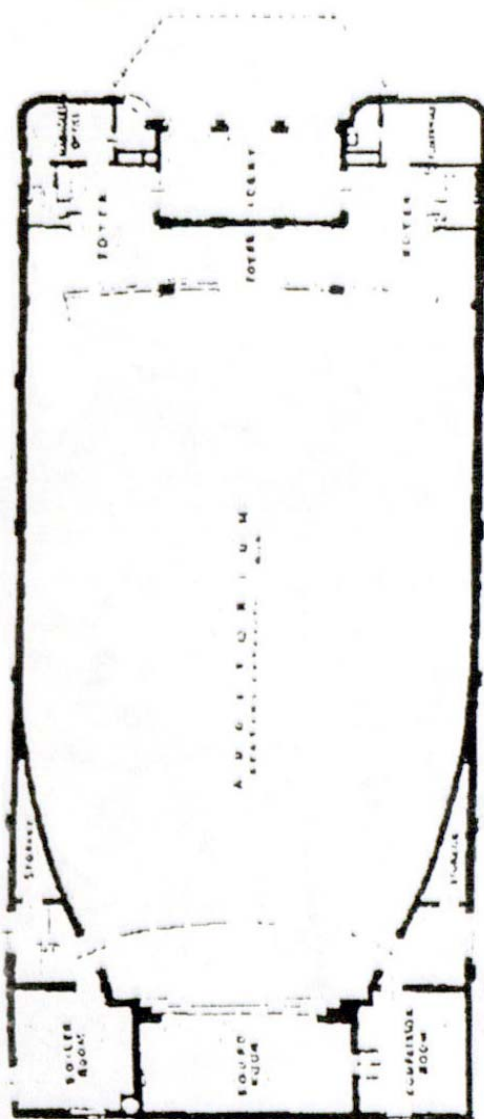
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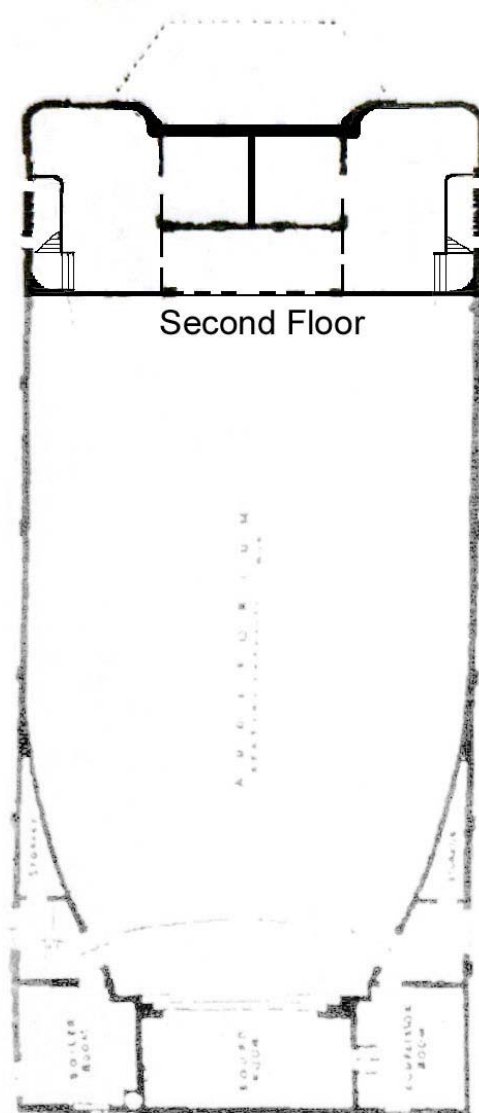
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Floor Plans



First Floor Plan



Second Floor

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**Henrico Theatre**  
**Henrico County, Virginia**

**Opening Day Announcement (Richmond Times Dispatch, April 24, 1938, pg. 6)**

Richmond Times-Dispatch, Sunday, April 24, 1938

# Grand

# Opening

Tomorrow,  
Monday, April 25th  
at 6:30 P. M.

## HOW TO REACH THE HENRICO

From Church Hill, drive out Twenty-Ninth Street into Nine Mile Road, thence to Highland Springs. The HENRICO is directly on the highway, near the High School, about 11½ miles from the City Hall.

## HENRICO THEATRE POLICY

### EVENINGS—MONDAY to FRIDAY

Open 8:45

First Show, 7:00—Second Show, 9:00

Admission Prices: Children under 13 years at all times, 15 cents. Adults, 25 cents

### SATURDAYS AND HOLIDAYS

Continuous Showings

8:00 2:00 7:00 9:00

Open 2:45—Shows 3:00

ADMISSION PRICES: Children under 12 years, 10 cents. Adults to \$ 5 P. M., 25 cents

Free Parking Space Available Adjacent to the Theatre for Our Patrons

## OPENING WEEK ATTRACTIONS

### MONDAY AND TUESDAY

## "THIN ICE"

with BOB HOPE

with BOB HOPE

with BOB HOPE

with BOB HOPE

with BOB HOPE

with BOB HOPE

with BOB HOPE

with BOB HOPE

with BOB HOPE

### WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

APRIL 27th and 28th

## BARBARA STANWYCK

### and JOHN BOLES

in

## "STELLA DALLAS"

### FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

APRIL 29th and 30th

## "YODEL" KID

### from PINE RIDGE"

with

### GENE AUTRY

### and SHELLEY BERNHEIT

PROGRAM CHANGED  
THREE TIMES WEEKLY!

## THE HENRICO THEATRE

THE HENRICO, Henrico County's OWN Theatre... a modern "Big City" temple of entertainment set in beautiful rural surroundings... awaits open its doors tomorrow and bids you welcome!

It is dedicated in particular to the people of Highland Springs, Sandston, Seven Pines and the wide surrounding area... But Richmonders, too, in large numbers will take the pleasant short ride to enjoy its beautiful comforts and high class programs.

THE HENRICO is of the very latest and most costly type of theatre construction. The picture shows suggests something of its imposing size and the striking beauty of its modernistic architecture.

### Interesting Features of THE HENRICO include:

- 1. Completely modernized air-conditioning system for year-round comfort.
- 2. Soundproofing provided by 20 inch concrete walls.
- 3. Modernized interior decoration, with lighting, stage, painting perfect example.
- 4. Large and floor type of sound and picture equipment.
- 5. The play area of distinctive modern design with full view seating and full cushioned comfort.
- 6. Stage setting of unique form and appearance.
- 7. Sound stage painting, on concrete side of building, 300,000 sq. ft. of painting.
- 8. Large parking space, 300,000 sq. ft. of parking.
- 9. Large parking space, 300,000 sq. ft. of parking.

THE FORMAL OPENING OF THE HENRICO TOMORROW EVENING WILL BE A GALA EVENT, WORTH COMING MILES TO ATTEND. DON'T MISS IT!

THE HENRICO IS A MONUMENT TO THE TALENTS AND LABORS OF THE FOLLOWING, WHOSE COOPERATION IS ACKNOWLEDGED:

ARCHITECT  
**E. CALICARI & SON**  
1010 North 10th Street  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

ENGINEERING, MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL  
**E. & S. BOWLES**  
1010 North 10th Street  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

CONSTRUCTION  
**CATLEY-JOHNSON CORP.**  
1010 North 10th Street  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MECHANICAL  
**W. D. DIXIE**  
1010 North 10th Street  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MECHANICAL  
**POWELL, HILL CO.**  
1010 North 10th Street  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MECHANICAL  
**THE SNEY ENGINEERING CO.**  
1010 North 10th Street  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MECHANICAL  
**KARER & CO.**  
1010 North 10th Street  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MECHANICAL  
**FLETCHER PICTURE CO., INC.**  
1010 North 10th Street  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MECHANICAL  
**GENERAL AUDITORIUM**  
1010 North 10th Street  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MECHANICAL  
**INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINE CO.**  
1010 North 10th Street  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MECHANICAL  
**M. W. MARTIN & SONS**  
1010 North 10th Street  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MECHANICAL  
**OWEN MORRIS CO.**  
1010 North 10th Street  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MECHANICAL  
**INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINE CO.**  
1010 North 10th Street  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MECHANICAL  
**M. W. MARTIN & SONS**  
1010 North 10th Street  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MECHANICAL  
**OWEN MORRIS CO.**  
1010 North 10th Street  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

MECHANICAL  
**POWELL, HILL CO.**  
1010 North 10th Street  
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(8-86)

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Richmond Reader's Poll (Architectural Record, December 1940, pg. 16 & 18)

THE RECORD POLL

EIGHTEEN NOMINATIONS:  
State Highway Commission  
Building, designed by Car-  
neal, Johnston & Wright,  
Architects and Engineers



RICHMOND CITIZENS FAVOR TRADITIONAL STYLES



FOURTEEN NOMINA-  
TIONS: State Library  
Building; Carneal, John-  
ston & Wright, Baskervill  
& Son, Associated Archi-  
tects; Alfred Gibbons  
and Francis Keally were  
Consulting Architects.



TWELVE NOMINA-  
TIONS: new Hospital at  
the Medical College of  
Virginia; Baskervill &  
Son were the architects.

HAVING LAST MONTH yielded up these pages to the *Lebensraum* demands of a dynamically expanded Building Types section, the Record Poll settles back into its own with the returns from Richmond, Va., originally scheduled for publication in the November issue.

Although the response from Richmond citizens, asked to nominate outstanding examples of recent architecture in their city, suggests a local preference in general for the architectural styles of tradition, it is interesting to note the popular endorsement of up-to-the-minute modern for such particular structures as the tobacco factory and radio station pictured on page 18.

Nominations were submitted by the following: Theodore F. Adams, pastor; Dr. Wyndham B. Blanton, physician; Dr. F. W. Boatwright, university president; Gamble Rogers, Director, Department of Public Works; Dr. John Stewart Bryan, college president; Thomas C. Colt, museum director; Virginius Dabney, editor; Willard F. Day, County Manager; H. E. Doyle, builder; Eppa Hunton, IV, lawyer; Robert M. Jeffress, manufacturer; O. M. Lafoon, realtor; Dr. B. H. Martin, physician; Dr. Stuart McGuire, surgeon; Rev. George Ossman; Raymond B. Pinchbeck, university dean; W. T. Sanger, medical college president; John Slavin, artist; W. H. Schwarzschild, bank president; Morton G. Thalheimer, realtor; Dr. W. T. Vaughan, physician; Dr. Emanuel U. Wallerstein, physician; Dr. Frank L. Wells, pastor; Lewis C. Williams, lawyer.

Buildings receiving several nominations but less than those pictured: Central National Bank Bldg. (John Ebersson, Architect; Carneal, Johnston & Wright, Associate Architects); Crozet House (restoration by Edward F. Sinnott, Architect); Henrico Theater (Edward F.

(Continued on page 18)

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Photo by Danforth, from Siskler

ELEVEN NOMINATIONS: United States Tobacco Co. Model Factory. It was designed by the architectural firm of Smith, Garden & Erickson.

### THE RECORD POLL

(Continued)



Miami and Miami Beach are the January Poll objectives.



EIGHT NOMINATIONS: The Westhampton Theater, by A. O. Budina of Neighborhood Theaters, Inc.



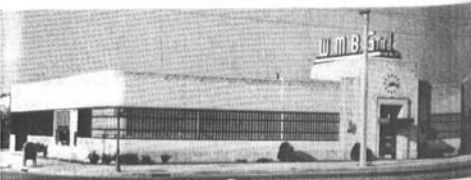
SIX NOMINATIONS: the Frank A. Bliley Funeral Home, designed by Architect Edward F. Sinnott.



FIVE NOMINATIONS: Reconstructed Egyptian Building, Medical College of Va., Baskerville & Son, Architects.



FOUR NOMINATIONS: new research laboratory of the American Tobacco Co. It was designed by the architectural firm of Francisco & Jacobus.



FOUR NOMINATIONS: Broadcasting Building for radio station WMBG. William H. Rhodes was the architect for this recent project.

(Continued from page 10)  
Sinnott, Architect); Home for Confederate Women (Carl M. Linder, Architect); Philip Morris Tobacco Plant (Francisco & Jacobus, Architects); William T. Reed, Jr., residence (Baskerville & Son, Architects); Richmond Sand & Gravel Co. Bldg. (Edward F. Sinnott, Architect); St. Catherine's School—Central Building (Hobart Upjohn, Architects); Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (Peebles & Ferguson, Archts.)

DECEMBER 1940

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**Appendix: Edward F. Sinnott Architectural Drawings at the Bureau of Permits and Inspections, Building Permit Architectural Blueprints and Specifications, 1907-1949, Library of Virginia**

**Banks**

- Bank - Permit Number: 20173, Office Building for Building & Loan Association of Richmond - 302 E. Grace St., Address: 302 E. Grace St., 1929 Control Number: 1851, Drawn by: L. P. Hartsook, Edw. F. Sinnott, Associated Architects, American National Bank Bldg., Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: B.&L.Realty Corp.
- Bank - Permit Number: 20846, Southside Branch for American Bank and Trust Company, Address: 1518, 1520, 1522 Hull St., 1930 Control Number: 1825, Drawn by: Uffinger, Foster and Bookwalter, Inc., Architects, 221 W. 57th St., New York; Hartsook and Sinnott Associate Architects, Richmond, Va.; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: American Office Building Corp.
- Bank - Permit Number: 25710, Franklin Federal Savings and Loan Association of Richmond, Address: 616 E. Franklin St., 1940 Control Number: 2114, Drawn by: Edward F. Sinnott - Architect, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: Franklin - Davis Corp.

**Churches and Synagogues**

- Church/Synagogue - Permit Number: 18960, Park View Baptist Church and Sunday School, Address: 2602 - 2604 Idlewood Ave., 1928 Control Number: 1607, Drawn by: L. P. Hartsook, Architect, Edw. F. Sinnott, Associate., American Nat'l Bank Bldg., Richmond, Va.; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: Parkview Baptist Church
- Church/Synagogue - Permit Number: 20601, 17768A, Epiphany Episcopal Church and Sunday School, Address: 2900 - 2902 Hanes Ave., 1929 Control Number: 1901, Drawn by: L. P. Hartsook - Architect, Edw. F. Sinnott - Associate, Amer. Bank & Trust Bldg., Richmond, Va.; Contractor: W. L. Ragland and Co.; Commissioned by: Epiphany Episcopal Church
- Church/Synagogue - Permit Number: 20601, 17768A, Epiphany Episcopal Church and Sunday School, Address: 2900 - 2902 Hanes Ave., 1929 Control Number: 1901, Drawn by: L. P. Hartsook - Architect, Edw. F. Sinnott - Associate, Amer. Bank & Trust Bldg., Richmond, Va.; Contractor: W. L. Ragland and Co.; Commissioned by: Epiphany Episcopal Church
- Church/Synagogue - Permit Number: 21839, School Building - Sacred Heart Parish, Address: 1900 Perry St., 1931 Control Number: 1890, Drawn by: Edward P. Sinnott - Architect, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: Joseph Heye; Commissioned by: Rev. W.A. O'Hara (Sacred Heart School)
- Church/Synagogue - Permit Number: 27832A, Alterations and Addition, Beth El Congregation, Address: 3330 Grove Ave., 1941 Control Number: 2227, Drawn by: Edward F. Sinnott, Architect; Contractor: Davis and Spiers; Commissioned by: Congregation Beth El
- Church/Synagogue - Permit Number: 34609A, Proposed Alterations to St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church Rectory, Address: 804 E. Grace St., 1947 Control Number: 2839, Drawn by: Edward F. Sinnott, Architect, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: St. Peter's; Notes: Reverend Michael J. Cannon, Pastor

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**Educational Buildings**

- Educational Building - Permit Number: 35085A, Proposed Alterations and Additions to St. Benedict's School, Northwest Corner Grove and Belmont, Address: 3100 Grove Ave., 1948 Control Number: 3015, Drawn by: Edward F. Sinnott, Architect, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: St. Benedict's

**Factories**

- Factory - Permit Number: 26867, [Shop building], Address: 1705 Brook Rd., 1943 Control Number: 2308, Drawn by: Edward F. Sinnott; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: Fred R. Hofer

**Garages**

- Garage - Permit Number: 16569, Automobile Repair Shop, 2700 Block W. Broad St., Address: 2709 W. Broad St., 1926 Control Number: 1264, Drawn by: L. P. Hartsook, Edw. F. Sinnott, Associated Architects, American National Bank Bldg., Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: Hunt and A----; Commissioned by: Stebbing - Pauli Corp.

**Government Buildings**

- Government - Permit Number: 19565, Northside Station Richmond Post Office, North Ave., Mr. Julian W. Tyler, Owner, Address: 3006 North Ave., 1928 Control Number: 1738, Drawn by: L. P. Hartsook, Architect, Edw. F. Sinnott, Associate, Amer. Nat'l Bank Bldg., Richmond, Va.; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: Julian W. Tyler
- Government - Permit Number: 20776, Stuart Station, Richmond Post Office, Address: 19 & 21 South Belmont Ave., 1930 Control Number: 1827, Drawn by: L. P. Hartsook, Architect, Edw. F. Sinnott, Associate, Richmond, Va.; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: J. T. Nuckols

**Hospitals**

- Hospital - Permit Number: 22437, Sarah Jones Memorial Hospital, Address: 1229 Howard Rd., 1932 Control Number: 1897, Drawn by: Edward F. Sinnott - Architect, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: John T. Wilson; Commissioned by: Sarah G. Jones Memorial Hospital

**Office Buildings**

- Office Building - Permit Number: 18446A, Alterations and Additions to Office Building, N.W. Corner 3rd. & Clay Sts., Southern Aid Society of Virginia, Inc., Address: 504 N. 3rd. St., 1930 Control Number: 1791 Drawn by: Edw. F. Sinnott, Architect, American Bank & Trust Bldg., Richmond, Va.; Contractor: John T. Wilson and Company; Commissioned by: Southern Aid Society
- Office Building - Permit Number: 23749, Office Building for Richmond Sand & Gravel Corp., Address: 3011 Dock St., 1936 Control Number: 1976, Drawn by: Edward F. Sinnott, Architect, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: Richmond Sand & Gravel Co.; Notes:

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**Funeral Homes**

- Other - Permit Number: 23656A, Funeral Home for Frank A. Bliley, Grace and Madison Streets, Address: 217 W. Grace St., 1937 Control Number: 1990, Drawn by: Edward F. Sinnott, Architect, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: Frank A. Bliley

**Recreational Facilities**

- Recreation Facility - Permit Number: 28440A, Alterations and Repairs 201 E. Grace St. USO Building, Address: 201 E. Grace St., 1942 Control Number: 2275, Drawn by: Edward F. Sinnott, Architect, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: Estate of J. C. Hofheimer
- Recreational Facility - Permit Number: 9344, Cattle Building, Unit "A" for Virginia State Fair Association, Address: State Fair Grounds, Richmond, 1921 Control Number: 972, Drawn by: L. P. Hartsook & Edward Sinnott; Contractor: Hunt and Amrhein; Commissioned by: Virginia State Fair Association; Notes: One-level, brick and metal cattle stable.
- Residence - Permit Number: 15113, Residence for Mr. Ordway Puller, Address: 4100 Park Ave., 1925 Control Number: 1412, Drawn by: L. P. Hartsook, Architect, Edw. F. Sinnott, Associate, Amer. Nat'l Bank Bldg., Richmond, Va.; Contractor: A. F. Perrin; Commissioned by: Ordway Puller
- Residence - Permit Number: 19127, Residence for Miss Idell Sophire, Address: 3820 Chamberlayne Ave., 1928 Control Number: 1659, Drawn by: L. P. Hartsook - Architect, Edw. F. Sinnott - Associate, Amer. Nat'l Bk. Bldg., Richmond, Va.; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: Idell Sophire

**Residences**

- Residence - Permit Number: 24687, Residence for Lot No. 1, S. E. Corner of Franklin St. and Malvern Ave., Address: 4015 W. Franklin St., 1938 Control Number: 2056, Drawn by: Edward F. Sinnott - Architect, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: Edward F. Sinnott
- Residence - Permit Number: 29552, Residence for Mr. and Mrs. Abe Rosenbaum, Address: 4512 Monument Ave., 1948 Control Number: 2913, Drawn by: Edward F. Sinnott, Architect, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: Abe Rosenbaum

**Stores**

- Store - Permit Number: 12043A, Alterations and Additions to 20 E. Main St., Address: 20 E. Main St., 1923 Control Number: 848, Drawn by: L. P. Hartsook and Edward F. Sinnott; Contractor: Jos. Heye; Commissioned by: Mrs. D. J. Coleman; Notes: Alterations and additions to the facade and interior spaces of an existing brick store.
- Store - Permit Number: 22583, Business Building, No. 1 & 3 East Cary St., Address: 1 E. Cary St., 1933 Control Number: 1880, Drawn by: Edward F. Sinnott, Architect, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: State & City Building Corp.
- Store - Permit Number: 25255, Warehouse & Store, the J. R. Watkins Company, Address: 3015 Cutshaw Ave., 1939 Control Number: 2099, Drawn by: Edward F. Sinnott, Architect, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: Ernest L. King et als.

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- Store - Permit Number: 26167, Store building Rose's 5-10 & 25 Store, Address: 1505-1507 Hull St., 1941 Control Number: 2192, Drawn by: Edward F. Sinnott, Architect; Contractor: C. E. Nuckols; Commissioned by: H. A. Gray, Jr.

**Theatres**

- Theater - Permit Number: 24030, Motion Picture Theatre, S. E. Corner 29th & Q Sts., for Lichtman Theatres, Washington, D.C., Address: 2903 Q St., 1937 Control Number: 2000, Drawn by: Edward E. Sinnott, Architect, 112 East Cary St., Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: James Fox and Sons; Commissioned by: Hill Amusement Corp. (A. C. Lichtman)

**Warehouses**

- Warehouse - Permit Number: 25746, Warehouse - Strietmann Biscuit Co., Address: 1520 Altamont Ave., 1940 Control Number: 2172, Drawn by: Edward F. Sinnott, Architect, Richmond, Virginia; Contractor: N/A; Commissioned by: H. A. Gray Estate

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**Photograph List**

All photographs are of: Henrico Theatre (043-0287), 305 East Nine Mile Road  
Henrico County, VA

VDHR Negative Numbers: 22167 and 22168

Photographer: Susan Reed 7/28/04

All negatives are stored with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources

VIEW: Exterior, detail of marquee and ticket window

NEG. NO.: 22167 (frame 2)

PHOTO: 1 of 15

VIEW: Exterior, paving at entrance

NEG. NO.: 22167 (frame 3)

PHOTO: 2 of 15

VIEW: Exterior, southeast view

NEG. NO.: 22167 (frame 4)

PHOTO: 3 of 15

VIEW: Exterior, east elevation

NEG. NO.: 22167 (frame 8)

PHOTO: 4 of 15

VIEW: Exterior, northeast view

NEG. NO.: 22167 (frame 9)

PHOTO: 5 of 15

VIEW: Interior, lobby looking north

NEG. NO.: 22167 (frame 12)

PHOTO: 6 of 15

VIEW: Interior, fountain

NEG. NO.: 22167 (frame 14)

PHOTO: 7 of 15

VIEW: Interior, center ceiling medallion in auditorium

NEG. NO.: 22167 (frame 20)

PHOTO: 8 of 15

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VIEW: Interior, detail at proscenium

NEG. NO.: 22167 (frame 23)

PHOTO: 9 of 15

VIEW: Interior, exit door

NEG. NO.: 22167 (frame 24)

PHOTO: 10 of 15

VIEW: Interior, view toward stairs to Ladies Lounge

NEG. NO.: 22168 (frame 6)

PHOTO: 11 of 15

VIEW: Interior, wall of Ladies Lounge

NEG. NO.: 22168 (frame 8)

PHOTO: 12 of 15

VIEW: Interior, stair railing of Ladies Lounge

NEG. NO.: 22168 (frame 10)

PHOTO: 13 of 15

VIEW: Exterior, north elevation detail

NEG. NO.: 22168 (frame 23)

PHOTO: 14 of 15

VIEW: Exterior, north elevation detail

NEG. NO.: 22168 (frame 24)

PHOTO: 15 of 15